

many Americans wrote and talked of Serbs, our allies in battles we should remember, as if they were bugs.

To those Kosovars who will return or seek safe lives elsewhere, for Serbs who will one day eliminate Milosevic, go our embraces. To Clinton and his fellow leaders—our contempt for their human and security values.

While Clinton and his NATO comrades were busy bombing Serbia and Kosovo, they were permitting the destruction of the U.N. arms inspection of Iraq—the one barrier against Saddam Hussein's path to nuclear, biological and chemical weapons.

That is a disaster for all nations, for all human rights struggles. If America remembers the Clinton-Albright bungling in Iraq, China and Yugoslavia and demands that any presidential or senatorial candidate separate from them, there may be reason for some satisfaction—for champagne and parades, none.

CHARITABLE CHOICE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. SOUDER) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. SOUDER. Mr. Speaker, this really has been an exhausting week, and it will be interesting to see how people address this. Earlier one of our Members who said that we did not actually do anything this week, we did in fact pass a juvenile justice prevention bill, and I thought that that was our goal here which was to reduce juvenile crime and to reach those who have gotten in trouble and try to help them straighten out their lives.

If one is obsessed only with guns, and particularly if one is obsessed only with their solution to the gun problem, perhaps we had a difficult week because their bill did not pass, but let us not confuse that with the fact that we did accomplish some advancement in an effort to try to reach youth.

Furthermore, some of us were disappointed that we did not do more to address the question of violence in the media, and hopefully over the next few months we will be able to address that.

One amendment that I had that passed, the charitable choice amendment, gets lost. Charitable choice and many other things like this are not as glamorous or as media driven, and the general public does not focus on them like the Ten Commandments or like the one video game called Postal, where actually someone goes crazy and it shows how many of the people are remaining to be killed and a person gets more points if they hit them in the chest or at a main artery as opposed to other places in their body. This type of disgusting type of thing will get a lot of media attention, but when we do charitable choice where we are allowing juvenile prevention funds to be used by religious-based organizations, where people are actually trying to help the kids who are being impacted by this, it does not get as much media coverage.

We had hoped this afternoon to be able to move under unanimous consent

a sense of the House of Representatives in regard to community renewal through community and faith-based organizations. Out of respect to the minority who did not have adequate time to look at this and has some objections, this will probably be addressed on Tuesday, but I wanted to speak a little bit about this resolution and the renewal alliance efforts of this past week.

The gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. PITTS), the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. KASICH), the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. TALENT), the gentleman from Oklahoma (Mr. WATTS), the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. ENGLISH), the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. WAMP) and many others, as well as former Democratic colleagues Fred Flake of New York and Denny Davis of Chicago, have worked together in trying to put together both legislative packages, as well as in our renewal alliance efforts this past week, to have a number of meetings, to highlight local groups, to visit local charities and we were hoping that this resolution would have been a capping to that week.

The resolution, which we hope to have come up on Tuesday, states that while steady economic growth and low inflation has yielded unprecedented prosperity, many American citizens have not in fact benefited from this prosperity and continue to be socioeconomically disadvantaged. Many of these live in inner cities and rural communities where they continue to be plagued by social breakdown, economic disadvantage and educational failure that fosters hopelessness and despair.

Many of the groups that are by far the most effective are community and faith-based organizations. Many of us believe through the American Community Renewal Act and other pieces of legislation that we need to figure out how to get more dollars to the groups that are the most effective. We need to know how to capitalize on their vision of compassion, of volunteerism, of caring for the poor and the vulnerable; that when we see our national leaders, our current Republican leader candidate for president, Governor Bush has been a leader in the area of prisons where he has worked with Prison Fellowship. He has worked with a number of other local groups in Texas and has actually put this into practice.

A little bit newer to this is Vice President GORE but he has been outspoken in the past few weeks on the importance of including charitable, particularly religious and community-based organizations, in this effort.

In fact, on his election campaign home page he specifically says that he believes charitable choice should be promoted, and that was reflected in a vote this week on my amendment, where we not only had 346 votes but we had, I believe it was 130 Democrats for it and only 79 Democrats against it.

We are in an unusual period right now in America, and that is both par-

ties are coming to realize that the Federal Government, for that matter the State and local governments alone, cannot accomplish and solve all the problems related to poverty. Not that anybody can, but they need the help; in particular are seeking the help. Many of us in government now realize we have to work, we must work, with the churches and volunteers in our local community. We must give tax incentives.

I have one tax bill, the charitable tax bill, that would increase the value of the charitable deduction to 120 percent; that would let nonitemizers take the charitable deduction; that would lift the caps on higher income and delay the effective date to April 15.

We need to be looking at creative tax solutions, at creative solutions as we now have, in welfare reform where we have done charitable choice, in social services block grant where we did charitable choice last year, and now in juvenile justice where we have put charitable choice in.

So whatever else we may or may not have accomplished, we did move some prevention programs. We have once again advanced the charitable choice and next hopefully we will have another resolution that will put the House on record in this exciting and really substantive, if not the most sexy concept, that we are proceeding with.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

By unanimous consent, leave of absence was granted to:

Mr. PASCRELL (at the request of Mr. GEPHARDT) for Friday, June 18, after 12:15 p.m., on account of family emergency.

Mr. LEWIS of California (at the request of Mr. ARMEY) for today on account of attending a funeral.

SPECIAL ORDERS GRANTED

By unanimous consent, permission to address the House, following the legislative program and any special orders heretofore entered, was granted to:

(The following Member (at the request of Mr. PALLONE) to revise and extend his remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mr. PALLONE, for 5 minutes, today.

(The following Members (at the request of Mr. SOUDER) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mr. SMITH of Michigan, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. DUNCAN, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. EHRLICH, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. SOUDER, for 5 minutes, today.

(The following Member (at his own request) to revise and extend his remarks and insert extraneous material:)

Mr. EHRLICH, for 5 minutes, today.

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION REFERRED

A Concurrent resolution of the Senate of the following title was taken